



Help Save the Endangered Whooping Crane

Adopt A Whooper Kick-off

Sponsored by Friends of Patuxent

Saturday, July 28, 2012 - 10:00AM - 2:00PM
Admission is free

National Wildlife Visitor Center
10901 Scarlet Tanager Court
Laurel, Maryland 20708-4011
(Off Powder Mill Road between the
B/W Parkway (MD RT 295) & MD RT 197)

Enjoy the day the following ways:

- Learn about the magnificent Whooping Crane and the Adopt A Whooper Program.
- Follow the life cycle of these birds from an egg to an adult through photos.
- Talk with a member of the Crane Crew.
- Try on a special suit used to prevent Whooping Crane chicks from imprinting on humans.
- Children can compare their height to that of a Whooping Crane and have their picture taken. Artistic talent can be exercised at a coloring table, or by dancing like a crane.
- Win a door prize - awarded hourly.

Whooping Cranes are one of America's most endangered birds. The population of Whooping Cranes reached a low of less than 25 in the early 1940's. Currently, fewer than 500 wild whoopers exist. The U.S. Geological Survey's Patuxent Wildlife Research Center is playing a key role in the recovery of these magnificent birds. Each year it raises an average of 25 chicks and releases 90 percent of them into wild populations.

How you can help: visit the Friends of Patuxent Adopt A Whooper table and initiate an adoption. Symbolic adoptions through the Adopt A Whooper Program will support Whooping Crane research, education, and interpretive programs at Patuxent.

Contact person: Ken Lavish; 301-384-4557; devish@verizon.net . For more information about the Adopt a Whooper Program and Friends of Patuxent, please visit www.friendsofpatuxent.org .